

HOUSE No. 1961

By Mr. Donelan of Orange, petition of Christopher J. Donelan relative to further regulating the operation of motor vehicles. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO RULES OF THE ROAD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 89 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
2 after the section 7B the following section:—

3 Section 7C. The driver of a motor vehicle, upon approaching a
4 stationary public safety vehicle that is displaying a flashing red
5 light, flashing combination red and white light, oscillating or
6 rotating red light, oscillating or rotating combination red and
7 white light, flashing blue light, flashing combination blue and
8 white light, oscillating or rotating blue light, or oscillating or
9 rotating combination blue and white light shall do either of the
10 following:

11 If the driver of the motor vehicle is traveling on a highway that
12 consists of at least two lanes that carry traffic in the same direc-
13 tion as that of the driver's motor vehicle, the driver shall proceed
14 with due caution and, if possible and with due regard of the road,
15 weather and traffic conditions, shall change lanes into a lane that
16 is not adjacent to that of the stationary public safety vehicle.

17 If the driver is not traveling on a highway of a type described
18 above or if the driver is traveling on a highway of that type but it
19 is not possible to change lanes or if to do so would be unsafe, the
20 driver will proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the
21 motor vehicle, and maintain a safe speed for the road, weather and
22 traffic conditions.